

CLAIMS

1. A position locating instrument (10) comprising a base (11) connected to means (12) capable of determining the position of the instrument, a plate (24) moving along with the base for insertion into an opening (36) of a bone cutting guide (37), and resilient means for compensating for the play between the plate and the guide to prevent a movement of the instrument when it is inserted in the opening.

2. The instrument of claim 1, in which the resilient play compensation means comprise at least three flexible blades (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) provided to bear against a surface (39) of the opening (36).

3. The instrument of claim 2, in which the plate (24) comprises a surface (25) provided to be maintained bearing against a complementary surface (38) of the opening (36) under the action of the flexible blades (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D).

4. The instrument of claim 2, in which each flexible blade (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) is bent, and is connected to the plate (24) at one end, the opposite end of the blade being provided to come into contact with the surface (39) of the opening (36).

5. The instrument of claim 4, in which the end of each flexible blade (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) provided to come into contact with a surface (39) of the opening (36) is tapered.

6. The instrument of claim 4, comprising at least three flexible blades (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) arranged in quincunx.

7. The instrument of claim 2, in which the plate is formed of a resilient material, the flexible blades (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) being formed in the plate (24).

8. The instrument of claim 2, in which the flexible blades (28A, 28B, 28C, 28D) are parallel.

9. The instrument of claim 1, in which the means capable of determining the position of the instrument comprise a rigid body (12) solidly connected to the base (11) on which are arranged back-reflective disks (16).

10. The instrument of claim 1, in which the locating instrument comprises markers (33), each marker being capable of cooperating with means for locating the position of said marker.